

## REVISING AND EDITING

## What Should I Do?

**1. Make sure your introduction engages the reader.**

- Read your introduction aloud. **Circle** sentences that seem obvious or boring.
- Add an interesting **observation**, a **question**, or some **dialogue** to catch the reader's attention.

## What Does It Look Like?

*How can people find meaning in life when death could come at any time?*

*"The Interlopers" by Saki and "Two Friends" by Guy de Maupassant are both about death.*

*two short stories with similar messages about death and fate.*

**2. Replace imprecise vocabulary with strong, specific words.**

- **Underline** vague words and phrases, such as *really*, *kind of*, *sort of*, *lots*, and *things*.
- Use **precise** terms to make your essay more accurate and sophisticated.

*Their relationship <sup>endures,</sup> stays really great, even though <sup>know little of</sup> they are kind of ignorant about each other's lives and have no contact beyond <sup>their shared hobby.</sup> what they do.*

**3. Clearly connect your ideas.**

- Draw a **box** around each transition that you used.
- If your essay lacks boxes, add **transitions** that clarify how ideas compare or contrast.

*Von Gradwitz jealously guards the land, hoping to find his enemy illegally hunting there and to kill him.*

*<sup>on the other hand,</sup> In "Two Friends," <sup>on the other hand,</sup> Morissot and Savage share a deep friendship.*

**4. Fine-tune your conclusion to leave a powerful impression.**

- Ask a peer reader to **highlight** parts of your conclusion that are confusing or that need more elaboration.
- Include **details** or **explanations** to clarify your ideas and show your reader a new way of thinking about the works.

*~~The message of the stories is that all people have is each other.~~*

*Both authors seem to be saying that, in a world full of natural or political enemies, all people have is each other. Through friendship, we can defy death and find meaning in life.*

See page 470: Ask a Peer Reader